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Cont*

40. (New) The apparatus of Claim 39, wherein the negotiation component provides a single structured template that is supplemented by supporting views to capture events regarding a negotiation.

REMARKS

The remaining issues regarding this application are as follows:

- The Examiner objected to Fig. 2A;
- The Examiner rejected Claims 2 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph as being indefinite; and
- The Examiner rejected Claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Lau (U.S. Patent No. 5,987,247). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejections in light of the new claims and the following remarks.

In the Drawings:

The Examiner objected to Fig. 2A. In the specification, the architecture object 200 is utilized by client and server components so the same number 200 is utilized by both components (Page 16, lines 25-31). Thus, there shouldn't be any problem with utilizing the same number 200 in both components. No new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this objection.

35 U.S.C. § 112

Examiner has rejected Claims 2 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 2nd paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter

which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants have canceled these claims.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw his rejection to these claims.

35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Lau (U.S. Patent No. 5,987,247). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection in light of the new claims. Applicants have added new Claims 22-40. The specification supports these new claims (see page 137, lines 29-37 and page 183, lines 15-31). No new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully submit that the new claims are not described or suggested by Lau.

New Claim 22 recites, “a server component in communication with the client component, the server component including a task engine application program that interacts with an event processor, wherein the event processor interacts with a claim folder that decomposes a claim related to the event into a plurality of levels such as, a policy level, a claim level, a participant level and a line level, wherein the plurality of levels reflects a policy, the claim, claimants and an insured person in a structured format.”

New Claim 34 recites, “a server component including a task engine application program that interacts with an event processor, wherein the event processor interacts with a claim folder that decomposes a claim related to the event into a plurality of levels such as, a policy level, a claim level, a participant level and a line level, wherein the plurality of levels reflects a policy, the claim, claimants and an insured person in a structured format.”

Lau discloses a computer program product for building a framework of objects corresponding to a design for an object oriented application. Such a computer program product may include a computer readable storage medium having computer readable code means embodied in the medium. The computer readable code means may then include computer instruction means for generating an initial framework corresponding to the design. The initial framework corresponds to at least one of file objects, module objects, interface objects, methods and attributes. (Column 6, lines 36-46). Lau also discloses a business related object oriented program to first perform a business analysis and then to develop the business architecture and design.

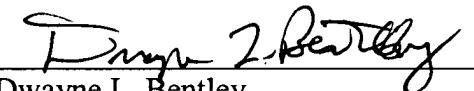
Lau, however, does not anticipate, disclose or suggest the utilization of a claim folder that decomposes a claim related to the event into a plurality of levels such as, a policy level, a claim level, a participant level and a line level, wherein the plurality of levels reflects a policy, the claim, claimants and an insured person in a structured format. In fact, Lau, teaches away from utilizing a claim folder to decompose a claim related to the event into a plurality of levels such as, a policy level, a claim level, a participant level and a line level, wherein the plurality of levels reflects a policy, the claim, claimants and an insured person in a structured format. Lau utilizes a business requirement or function that is a query for information relating to customers in an insurance environment and the functions may include tracking the customers and resolving claims, but Lau does not include a claim folder or a way the business requirement can be utilized to provide a structured format that reflects a policy, the claim, claimants and the insured person. (Column 9, lines 4-15).

For the foregoing reasons, the new Claims 22 and 34 are not anticipated by Lau. Claims 23-33 and 35-40 depend from independent Claims 22 and 34. Therefore, Claims 23-33 and 35-40 also are not anticipated by Lau as claims dependent upon allowable base claims.

SUMMARY

New Claims 22-40 are patentable. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner grant early allowance of this application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorneys for the Applicants via telephone if such communication would expedite allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX A

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-20 and add new Claims 22-40 as follows:

22 . (New) A system for assigning tasks, the system comprising:
a client component configured for providing information concerning an individual
in an event and for allowing a user to link the individual to the event; and
a server component in communication with the client component, the server
component including a task engine application program that interacts with an event
processor, wherein the event processor interacts with a claim folder that decomposes a
claim related to the event into a plurality of levels such as, a policy level, a claim level, a
participant level and a line level, wherein the plurality of levels reflects a policy, the
claim, claimants and an insured person in a structured format.

23. (New) The system of Claim 22, wherein the policy level further comprises
information related to details and covered auto for auto claims.

24. (New) The system of Claim 23, wherein the policy level further comprises
information related to covered property for property claims.

25. (New) The system of Claim 24, wherein the policy level further comprises
information related to covered yacht for marine claims.

26. (New) The system of Claim 22, wherein the claim level further comprises information such as, details, facts of loss, events and liability.

27. (New) The system of Claim 22, wherein the participant level further comprises details and contact information.

28. (New) The system of Claim 27, wherein the participant level further comprises additional sections for claimants.

29. (New) The system of claim 28, wherein the additional sections are shown to display, events, injury and disability management.

30. (New) The system of Claim 22, wherein the line level includes information related to details and damaged vehicle for vehicle lines.

31. (New) The system of Claim 30, wherein the line level further comprises information related to damaged property for property lines.

32. (New) The system of Claim 31, wherein the line level further comprises information related to damage yacht for marine lines.

33. (New) The system of Claim 32, wherein the line level further comprises information related to events, damages and negotiation.

34. (New) An apparatus for assigning tasks, the apparatus comprising:
a server component including a task engine application program that interacts
with an event processor, wherein the event processor interacts with a claim folder that
decomposes a claim related to the event into a plurality of levels such as, a policy level, a
claim level, a participant level and a line level, wherein the plurality of levels reflects a
policy, the claim, claimants and an insured person in a structured format.

35. (New) The apparatus of Claim 34, wherein the participant level further
comprises recording involvement in the claim.

36. (New) The apparatus of Claim 34, wherein the participant level further
comprises recording role specific information.

37. (New) The apparatus of Claim 34, wherein the participant level further
comprises making contact with clients.

38. (New) The apparatus of Claim 34, wherein the participant level further
comprises providing forms and correspondence.

39. (New) The apparatus of Claim 34, wherein the line level further comprises a
negotiation component.

40. (New) The apparatus of Claim 39, wherein the negotiation component provides a single structured template that is supplemented by supporting views to capture events regarding a negotiation.